

CLAIMS

The invention is hereby claimed as follows:

- 5 1. A method for installing artificial turf adjacent to a runway/taxiway of an airport/airfield comprising the steps of:
 - (a) installing a base on an excavated soil surface adjacent to the runway/taxiway; and
 - (b) securely installing said artificial turf adjacent to the runway/taxiway so that an edge of the turf adjacent to the runway/taxiway is not removed when an aircraft passes by the edge of the turf.
- 10 2. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of compacting the surface.
- 15 3. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of scarifying the soil surface.
- 20 4. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of grading the soil surface to cause water to flow away from the runway/taxiway.
- 25 5. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of installing a weed barrier on the soil surface, underneath the base.

6. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of compacting the base.

7. The method of Claim 1, which includes installing a growth 5 retarding base.

8. The method of Claim 1, wherein installing the base includes installing a layer of rock.

10 9. The method of Claim 1, which includes installing a base that slows the motion of a runaway aircraft.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein installing the base includes installing a layer of sand on top of a layer of rock.

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11. The method of Claim 1, wherein installing the base includes installing a layer of rock, installing a weed barrier on the layer of rock and installing a layer of sand on the weed barrier.

20 12. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of installing a weed barrier on the base, underneath the artificial turf.

13. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of installing a waterproof membrane on the base, underneath the artificial turf.

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14. The method of Claim 1, which includes attaching a member to the runway/taxiway and securely installing the artificial turf to the member.

5 15. The method of Claim 14, which includes fastening the member to the runway/taxiway.

16. The method of Claim 14, which includes adhering the member to the runway/taxiway.

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17. The method of Claim 14, which includes fastening the turf to the member.

18. The method of Claim 14, which includes adhering the turf to the member.

19. The method of Claim 1, wherein securely installing the turf includes the step of fastening the turf to the base.

20 20. The method of Claim 1, which includes the step of applying an infill layer onto the artificial turf.

21. A method for installing artificial turf adjacent to a runway/taxiway of an airport/airfield comprising the steps of:

(a) removing an amount of natural grass adjacent to a runway/taxiway; and

(b) securely installing the artificial turf to the runway/taxiway so that the turf is not removed as an aircraft passes by the artificial turf.

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22. The method of Claim 21, which includes attaching the turf to a member that is secured to the runway.

10 23. The method of Claim 21, which includes installing a base beneath the turf.

24. A method for improving airport safety comprising the steps of:

(a) removing an amount of natural surface adjacent to a runway/taxiway;

15 (b) installing a base in place of the removed surface, the base configured and arranged to: (i) support the weight of an aircraft if the aircraft veers off the runway and (ii) support the weight of emergency vehicles attempting to reach the runaway aircraft even in wet conditions; and

20 (c) covering the base with a synthetic covering.

25. The method of Claim 24, wherein the synthetic covering includes artificial turf.

26. A method for retarding birds in a safety area at an airport comprising the steps of:

- (a) reducing substantially at least one food source for the birds in the safety area by removing a natural surface that supports the food source; and
- (b) replacing the natural surface with a synthetic covering.

27. The method of Claim 26, wherein the synthetic covering includes artificial turf.

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28. The method of Claim 26, which includes reducing substantially an amount of nesting materials for the birds via the removal of the natural surface.

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29. The method of Claim 26, which includes reducing substantially at least one food source for the birds in the safety area by removing an amount of soil beneath the natural surface in which the food source lives.

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30. The method of Claim 26, which includes converting the safety area to an area that is unnatural for the birds to reproduce.

31. The method of Claim 26, wherein at least a portion of the safety area is adjacent to a runway-taxiway of the airport.

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32. A method for retarding birds in a safety area at an airport comprising the steps of:

- (a) reducing substantially an amount of nesting materials for the birds via the removal of a natural surface in the safety area; and
- 5 (b) replacing the natural surface with a synthetic covering.

33. The method of Claim 32, which includes reducing substantially at least one food source for the birds in the safety area by removing an amount of soil beneath the natural surface in which the food source
10 lives.

34. The method of Claim 32, wherein synthetic covering includes artificial turf.

15 35. The method of Claim 32, wherein at least a portion of the safety area is adjacent to a runway-taxiway of the airport.

36. A method for retarding at least one animal area at an airport comprising the steps of:

- 20 (a) reducing substantially at least one food source for the animal by removing a natural surface that supports the food source; and
- (b) replacing the natural surface with a synthetic covering.

37. The method of Claim 32, wherein the synthetic covering includes artificial turf.

38. The method of Claim 36, which includes reducing substantially 5 an amount of nesting materials for the animal via the removal of the natural surface.

39. The method of Claim 36, which includes reducing substantially at least one food source for the animal in the safety area by removing 10 an amount of soil beneath the natural surface in which the food source lives.

40. The method of Claim 36, wherein at least a portion of the safety area is adjacent to a runway-taxiway of the airport.

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41. A method for retarding birds/animals in a safety area of an airport comprising the steps of:

(a) removing a natural grass surface from the safety area; and

20 (b) installing a synthetic covering in the safety area wherein the synthetic covering is uncomfortable for the birds/animals to walk on.

42. The method of Claim 41, wherein the synthetic covering 25 includes artificial turf.

43. The method of Claim 41, which includes reducing substantially at least one food source for the birds/animals in the safety area by removing an amount of soil beneath the natural surface in which the
5 food source lives.

44. The method of Claim 41, wherein at least a portion of the safety area is adjacent to a runway-taxiway of the airport.